

Mr. BOB SCHAFFER of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, if the gentleman will yield, I am glad the gentleman brings up this concept of the cost of regulation at the same time we talk about the cost of taxation.

There is a very important date coming up just in the next few weeks. July 3rd is the Cost of Government Day. Now many of us will remember back to May 9. We worked up to May 9 to pay off all of the taxes to satisfy the government. We worked up to that point for the government; the rest of the year we work for our family and the things important to us.

But further down the line, way into the 7th month of the year, July 3rd, is Cost of Government Day. That is the date after which we have surpassed all of our obligations to the Federal Government, not just for taxes but also for regulation. More than 50 percent of an average family's income goes to pay for taxes at the State, Federal, local level, and regulations at the State, Federal and local level.

These new air quality standards the gentleman from Ohio mentions are estimated to cost the agriculture industry alone in America anywhere from \$9 to \$12 billion a year. That is the government's estimates. That is Carol Browner's estimates. And the people in the industry suggest that those estimates are far too low.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Maryland [Mr. EHRLICH] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. EHRLICH addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

□ 2230

#### HOME-BASED BUSINESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. COOKSEY). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New Jersey [Mr. PAPPAS] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. PAPPAS. Mr. Speaker, we are talking about common sense things here. Just a few months ago, many of my friends here know, in fact, everyone here, save for two, are cosponsors of the bill that I introduced dealing with the home office deduction. And they know who they are.

I am very happy to see that in the new bill that the Committee on Ways and Means has been bringing forward includes, maybe not the exact language, but the concept of the home office deduction is included. So many individuals in our country are starting home-based businesses. Some people are employed in a corporation or maybe another small business. Yet on their own time they are putting their energy, their creativity to work, which is truly a part of the American entrepreneurial spirit in starting a home-based business. I am excited about the support that that has really across the country from all walks of life.

Seventy percent of the new home-based businesses or small businesses that are started are started by women. And as my colleagues know, there are many single-parent families that are headed by women. And being able to have the home-based business with the deductions that other home-based businesses have had, I think, is fair. I am very encouraged to see so much support among my colleagues here tonight, most of them, and, hopefully, by the end of the night, all of them.

I yield to the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. FOX].

Mr. FOX. To enter this discussion as part of this tax reform debate, all of my colleagues have agreed to be part of the Pappas legislation with the home office deduction. But I think that scores the important point about how most small businesses are the engine of the economy. Ninety percent of new jobs come from small businesses. So the Pappas legislation, along with other tax reforms, are what Americans really need. I believe that legislation is going to move forward, and we appreciate the leadership of the gentleman from New Jersey [Mr. PAPPAS] on that issue.

I know the gentleman from Georgia [Mr. KINGSTON] has been working feverishly to make sure that we do get the new package. I believe what the gentleman from South Dakota [Mr. THUNE] said earlier is true, the balanced budget together with tax reform is really going to be historic and make a difference in people's lives.

The balanced budget is important because we are going to see reductions in the interest payments for college loans, in the interest payments for the car, and the interest payments for the home mortgage. That is the key to America.

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, if the gentleman would yield, I wanted to make sure folks understand that under President Clinton in 1993, we experienced the largest tax increase in the history of the country, which I believe was in the figure of somewhere about \$250 billion. We are talking about only, unfortunately, an \$85 billion decrease in taxes. It does not take us back to the pre-Clinton days, if you will.

Now what is interesting is, as we hear the cries of those that oppose the tax relief, is you would think we are giving away the farm. And it is so important for people to realize it is not our money. The United States Congress does not own money. We, through the force of Government, confiscate money out of people's pocket and we take it.

All we are saying is, hey, let us take less of the middle-class hard earned dollars. That is all we are talking about. And yet people, you would think, are about to give away their first born child the way some of the opponents are fighting this tax relief.

Mr. SOUDER. Mr. Speaker, if the gentleman would yield, I think his point about the home office deduction, as well as the point of the gentleman

from Georgia [Mr. KINGSTON] about the general attitude of many in the other party is very perplexing.

One time one parent had their son tell me what he had been taught was the difference between Republicans and Democrats; and that is that Republicans believe in big people and little government, and Democrats believe in big government and little people.

I think President Clinton and some have moved beyond that, but there are many in this body who are still criticizing that. They do not seem to understand how jobs in America are created, how people can have choices. So many millions of American people through Amway, through Discovery Toys, through the many different things that have branched out, as well as new computer-based businesses at home, give not only mothers now the choice to stay home with their kids or women to be able to start a business, but now many men are working at home in different types of businesses.

If we do not recognize these changes, we kill the engine of economic growth of how jobs are created. They are created not by government but by people looking for creative ways to combine the needs of their life-styles and the needs of capital and the shortage thereof.

With the Internet nowadays and with the ability to use phones and all the different ways, we need to make sure that the home office deduction and things like this reflect the ways of economic growth.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Minnesota [Mr. GUTKNECHT] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. GUTKNECHT addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extension of Remarks.]

#### REGULATION OF SMALL BUSINESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from South Dakota [Mr. THUNE] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. THUNE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to keep in discussion we have had this evening with respect to regulation. I was sitting in the Committee on Agriculture this morning and we had a number of folks testifying in front of our committee, and it had to do with an issue which is very important in my home State of South Dakota.

We have a tremendous natural resource known as the Black Hills. And interestingly enough, we talk about the heavy hand of Government regulation, as I was listening to the testimony this morning, in 31 cases, the last 31 times, there has been a proposed timber sale in the Black Hills; 31 times that has been appealed.

In every case it has ended up as being a long, protracted fight. In fact, we had what is known as a blow-down in April,